

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended): A laser output circuit for an optical disk recording apparatus in which an optical disk is rotated at a constant angular speed and a signal is recorded while the disk is rotated, said laser output circuit comprising:

 a pickup control circuit for controlling a pickup position at which data is written onto the optical disk;

 a signal recording circuit for supplying to said pickup data to be written onto said optical disk;

 a signal level detection circuit for detecting a signal level of the signal read by said pickup; and

 a laser output setting circuit for setting a laser output for the writing of data onto the optical disk by said pickup,

 wherein test data is written onto a trial writing region on an inner peripheral side of said optical disk and onto an outer peripheral region outside a data writing region, the thus written test data is read from the disk, and said laser output is set in accordance with the signal levels of the test data read from both the trial writing region and the outer peripheral region;

 wherein said trial writing region, a buffer region, a lead-in region, a program region, and a lead-out region are disposed in order from the inner peripheral side of said optical disk toward the outer peripheral side, and said outer peripheral region is disposed outside the lead-out region; and

wherein test data is written onto or read from the trial writing region disposed on the innermost peripheral side of said optical disk and the trial writing region disposed outside of the ~~read-out~~ lead-out region.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Original): The circuit according to claim 1 wherein said laser output setting circuit sets the laser output based on an inner peripheral side laser output set according to the test data read from the trial writing region, an outer peripheral side laser output set according to the test data read from the outer peripheral region, and information on a recording property of the disk.

4. (Previously Presented): The circuit according to claim 3 wherein said test data is written by altering the laser output within a predetermined range, and said recording property is determined from the test data based on a relationship between the laser output and the signal level of the signal read by said pickup.

5. (Original): The circuit according to claim 3 wherein prerecorded data regarding a recording property of the disk is read from the disk, and said recording property is determined based on the read data.

6. (Original): The circuit according to claim 1 wherein an inner peripheral side laser output set from the test data read from the trial writing region, and an outer peripheral side laser output set from the test data read from the outer peripheral region are stored in a memory.

7. (Original): The circuit according to claim 6 wherein the inner peripheral side laser output set according to the test data read from the trial writing region and the outer peripheral side laser output set according to the test

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data read from the outer peripheral region are deleted from the memory when the disk is replaced.

8. (Original): The circuit according to claim 6 wherein the inner peripheral side laser output set according to the test data read from the trial writing region and the outer peripheral side laser output set according to the test data read from the outer peripheral region are deleted from the memory when a predetermined time elapses after the end of a recording operation.